



St Brendan's & St Mary's Parishes are child safe communities. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
My cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

**The Garabandal Prayer Group will
meet on Monday, March 16 at 1:30pm
in the Mary Mackillop room of
the Parish Office
(enter through the Office).**



Second Reading Eph 5:8-14

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Jn 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

**St Brendan's parish friendship
group will meet for lunch on
Sunday, March 22
at the Terminus hotel
in High Street at 12.30.**

ALL WELCOME!!

**Contact: Pat 0423343711
(please leave a message)**

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Today's gospel reading is the second in a series of three quite lengthy readings from the gospel of John that are a feature of the Lenten season in Year A of the liturgical cycle. The three readings address three significant themes and images: water; light; and new life. Although today's passage is about the healing of a blind man, the event takes place as part of a longer section of the gospel dealing with the image of light and specifically the image of Jesus as Light of the World.

The question asked by the disciples at the opening of this event is an interesting one. They ask, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' In Jewish culture at the time, any physical affliction was deemed to be punishment from God for sinful behaviour. As the man had been born blind, the suspicion falls on his parents as having committed such a terrible offence against God that their son is born blind. Jesus immediately rejects this interpretation of the man's affliction. Physical and mental illnesses or disabilities are in no way punishment from God.

Although the man's physical sight is restored by Jesus simply enough, his journey from darkness into light is a more complicated affair. He faces disbelief, ridicule and even abuse from the Jewish authorities as they try to discredit Jesus and diminish the impact of the miracle. In fact, their treatment of the man is what drives him along the road from recipient of an act of mercy to a confirmed believer. Furthermore, the Jewish authorities, despite their physical capacity for sight, are shown to be the ones who are truly blind and trapped in darkness because they deny the light that is before their very eyes.

**Our parish has raised \$1,598.05
for Caritas to date.**

Thank you all for your generosity!

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

Phone: 5821 2633

Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website: catholicparish.app/shepparton

Facebook: [sheppartoncatholic](https://www.facebook.com/sheppartoncatholic)

Parish Administrator: Fr Ronald N. Masilang, RCJ

Assistant Priests:

Fr Adi Indra

Fr Ruel Desamparado, RCJ

Fr Addin Doe, RCJ

Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years.

We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.

Readers & Commentators Mar 21 & Mar 22, 2026

6pm	David Tarquini	Anthony Kilmartin
8am	TBC	Les Billings
11am	Bettina De Guzman	Marie Fontana

Recently Deceased: Sr. Maureen McManus RSM, Mary Delahey

Anniversaries: Nazzareno Ganino

Men's Group

Our next men's group will be on Saturday, March 21 at 7.30am in the Parish centre.

We will welcome Martins' Aloga, he will share a few thoughts from his home country of Nigeria.

Martins' works in Shepparton is in spiritual care at GV Health Hospital.

Nigeria has been in the news lately with interior conflicts, but I am sure there is hope amidst these troubles.

Please come along and listen to Martins' share his thoughts.

Anthony



Our **RCIA group** is off to Kyabram on Sunday, March 15 for a retreat day.

The day is a time for them to look more deeply at their journey to faith and see if anything is holding them back from the complete freedom of receiving God's love for them.

The 1st Scrutiny last weekend was a wonderful experience for us all, we shared tears and joy as we all entered into the story of The Samaritan Woman at the Well.

Please continue to pray for us all.



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am

Syro Malabar Rite: Wednesday 6.00pm,

Saturday 8.30am & Sunday 5.30pm

St Mary's Dookie, Sunday 10 am

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament: Thursdays 7pm to 8pm and

Fridays 4.45pm - 5.45pm

Thank you!

I would like to thank you the Parish of St Brendan's for taking a chance on a retired Dairy farmer nearly 14 yrs ago, Fr Joe saw something in me that he thought needed to be shared with others, hopefully I have shared my own faith in a loving God who calls me to growth in faith, and to transformation each and every day. I thank you all for your friendship and help over this time, there have been times when I have needed the support of the Parish community and have received it in spades.

I will step back for a while and allow the new Pastoral Associate time to settle in, thank you and God bless,

Anthony Kilmartin

Everyone belongs
HARMONY DAY
March 21st



Magellan are having morning tea on

Thursday, 19 March at 10.30am

at Milestone Cafe, Emerald Bank, Kialla.

Please also save the date for Rita O'Brien's

100th birthday lunch on Wednesday, 16 April at 12pm at The Parklake (Please note this is a change of venue).

RSVP by 13 April to Jenny Doherty on 0438 211 895

Come and Join Our PARISH LENTEN RECOLLECTION

When: 21 March 2026, Saturday
Where: St. Mel's Parish Church after the 9:15am mass

Theme: "Repentance and Forgiveness,
and the Mercy of the Father"

Rev. Fr. Adi Indra will lead us in our reflection.

SCHEDULE

9:15am - holy mass
9:45am - exposition of the blessed sacrament /
shared reflection by fr. adi
10:15am - moment of silent adoration & reflection
10:45am - solemn benediction/end of the recollection

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL SANDHURST

*"The Harvest of
the Spirit of God"*

Saturday March 21, 2026

9.30 cuppa, 10.00am-3.30pm

St Brendan's Knight St,
Shepparton at
Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre

Lunch: Please bring
a plate to share

Contact:

Brigita Hore: 0412 042 196

Mary Zobec: 0427 190 282

Denise Illot: 0407 506 813

Ecumenical Palm Sunday Service 29 March 2026



At the CWA Gardens, Dookie.

4.30pm for 5.00pm start.

Bring your own everything, chair, rug, coat, hat,
food, thermos, soft drink, torch & repellent.
Everyone Welcome.

Directions: Mary Street Dookie (the main street.)
Incase of inclement weather, the service will
relocate to the Uniting Church Hall, Curtain St, Dookie
Contact: Helen, ph 0427389721

On the Solemnity of St Patrick, a Mass will be celebrated on
TUESDAY MARCH 17 at 6pm at St Brendan's.

During this Mass we will also be honouring the Jubilee Migrant
Cross that is arriving in Shepparton shortly.
We ask everyone to bring a plate (with food) to share following
the celebration at the St Brendan's Pastoral Centre.



*The Parishes of St. Brendan's, St. Mel's, St.
Malachy's, St. Mary's Mooroona and St. Mary's
Dookie*

cordially and joyfully invite you
to join the
**FORMATION AND TRAINING
FOR EXTRAORDINARY
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
AND SACRISTANS**

When: The Holy Eucharist - 21 June 2026
@10:30am - 2:00pm (Saturday)
Where: St. Brendan's Pastoral Centre
(MPJ Hall)

*Snacks and Lunch will be provided.

RSVP for catering purposes:
contact St. Brendan's Parish Office -
03 5821 2633
or via email:
shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

*This is My
Body
This is My
Blood.*

Join us to make Palm Crosses

MARCH 18 - 3:30-4:30PM

MARCH 19 - 3:30-4:30PM

MARCH 20 - 9:45-10:45AM

MARCH 25 - 5-6PM

In the Pastoral Centre
All welcome, no need
to bring anything.

ENQUIRIES:
EMMA CHRISTY
0436 022 949

ST BRENDANS CHURCH YOUTH GROUP

March 20

3:30 (For a 4pm start)-5.30pm
in the Pastoral Centre
(hall behind the Church)
Join us for food, games
and discussion

shepparton.ym@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Dear Young Parishioners (aged 9+)

*of St. Brendan's, St. Mel's, St. Malachy's, St. Mary's
Mooroona and St. Mary's Dookie*

We cordially and joyfully invite you to
join the **Formation and Training for
Altar Servers**

When: 21 & 28 March, 2026 @10:00AM
- 1:00PM (Saturdays)

Where: St. Mel's Parish Gathering
Room

*Snacks and Lunch will be provided to
the participants/candidates.

RSVP for catering purposes: Contact
St. Mel's Parish Office -
03 5831 2194
or via email:
sheppartonsouth@sandhurst.catholic.
org.au

Little Red Skips



We also have equipment and people to help you clean up.
Call Joey for a bin delivery / quote
0428 713 708
Rubbish@littleredskips.com.au

Helping with all your dirty needs

Skip bins available in
2, 3, 5, 7+ metres

Hook bins available in
12, 20, 32, 37 metres



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SANDHURST
SEDE VACANTE

10th March 2026

Dear People of God in the Sandhurst Diocese,

I wish to notify you of some significant changes in several of our parishes. This letter accompanies the additional document you receive with the outline of the changes.

As you would be aware, a Team Ministry model was established in the Wodonga Parishes at the commencement of 2024. After careful review and after some days of consultation there, I have come to the judgement that this Team Ministry model in those parishes is not working. Let me be clear: it is the Ministry model that has been ineffective and not the three priests themselves. Accordingly, the best course forward is to establish a more traditional ministry model in the Wodonga parishes, to reassign the three priests to other parishes of our diocese and to assign two other priests to the Wodonga parishes.

Aware of my duties, but also my limitations, as the Administrator of the Diocese, I sought extensive canonical advice on what I was able to do and what I could not do. The changes in the document which accompanies this letter are all consistent with the legal advice I have received. An explanatory letter will be sent to the Wodonga Parishes to be read out at all parish Masses.

I express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Fathers Andrew Fewings, John Paul Pasala and DJ Suguitan for their willingness to accept new appointments in the diocese. Fr Andrew will become the Administrator of the Nathalia and Numurkah parishes. I express my gratitude to Fr Jophin Joy ALCP/OSS for resigning the parishes of Nathalia and Numurkah and accepting appointment as the Administrator of the Wodonga parishes.

As you might be aware Fr Tony Hill is retiring as Parish Priest of Euroa on 20th March. Fr Vijay Bandanadam ALCP/OSS has generously agreed to become Administrator of Euroa parish while remaining Parish Priest of Benalla. Fr DJ Suguitan will become Assistant Priest in the Euroa and Benalla Parishes, with residence at Euroa Presbytery.

Fr John Paul Pasala will become an Assistant Priest in the Shepparton Parishes, with residence at South Shepparton. Fr Adi Indra will become the Assistant Priest in the Wodonga Parishes. You will also note that Fr Boniface Kamulegeya has generously agreed to become the Supervising Priest in the Rushworth Parish.

All these changes come into effect as of midday April 13th 2026. I warmly commend these changes to you, ask that you keep the priests and parishes concerned in your prayers and continue to walk with your clergy as missionary disciples of the Lord.

With prayerful good wishes,

Very Rev. Dr Brian Boyle
Diocesan Administrator

PO Box 201, Bendigo VIC 3550 Australia
Telephone +61 03 5441 2544 bishop@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Outline of Parish Appointments.
The change will take effect as of midday, April 13.

Wodonga Parish

Administrator:

Fr Jophin Joy ALCP/OSS

Assistant Priest:

Fr Adi Indra

Nathalia/Numurkah Parishes

Administrator

Fr Andrew Fewings

Euroa Parish

Administrator

Fr Vijay Bandanadam
ALCP/OSS

(remains as Parish Priest of Benalla)

Assistant Priest

Fr DJ Suguitan

(Assistant in Benalla and Euroa, with residence in Euroa)

Shepparton South Parish

Assistant Priest

Fr John Paul Pasala

(Fr Ronaldo Masilang RCJ remains as Parish Priest)

Rushworth Parish

Supervising Priest

Fr Boniface Kamulegeya

“And if the situation should keep us separated...”

By now you may have heard the news of my move back to Wodonga after Easter. I must admit that I will be sad to leave you all (even thinking about it now makes me sad). I suppose that sadness is a sign that I have truly made a home here in the past 14 months, and you have certainly made me feel most welcome. Thank you.

My gratitude goes to all of you, especially my brother priests under the leadership of Fr Ronald. Fathers, *terima kasih* and *salamat po*.

I am sure you will welcome Fr John Paul Pasala back in your midst with open arms, just as you welcomed me, Fr Ruel, Fr Addin and Fr Ronald.

I will conclude with the words of Daryl Braithwaite in *The Horses*:
“And if the situation should keep us separated, you know the world won’t fall apart.”
Yes, though we clergy move around, the parish will still be here – as Fr Joe Taylor said once.

Let us remain united in the Eucharist.

Fr Adi

